



Elizabeth by the grace of God, Queene of England, France, and Ireland defendoz of the faith, &c. To all and singuler, Archbishops, Bishops, Archdeacons, Deanes, and their Officials, Parsons, Vicars, Curates, and to all other spirituall persons: and also to all Iustices of the peace, Maiors, Sherrifes, Balifes, Constables, Churchwardens, and Sidemen: Officers, Ministers and allover our faithfull Subiects within the Realme of England, as well within liberties as without, to whom these presents shall come, greeting.

Know ye, that whereas the Prisoners in the custodie of the Marshall of the Marshalsey of our house, haue made to vs supplication that they haue not wherewith to liue, neither any way be able to be comforted, but of such deuout men to God and faithfull in Christ as are willing charitably to releue them: we willing in this behalfe graciously to foresce their pouerty, taking it to be a charitable act that they may be yerely charity, we haue assigned our faithful subiect Hugh Oliuer by himselfe & his sufficient deputy, iointly or seuerally to aske, gather, receiue & take, the almes, charity & deuotion of our louing subiectes, inhabiting and dwelling within our County of Kent, with our Citties of Caunterbury and Rochester, and in our five Ports with the members of the same, and in our Isles of Tennesse & Sheppa: And the almes and gifts aforesaid so by him or his deputy gathered and receiued, wel and faithfullly to bring into our Court: & yeld an account thereof, to our Wardens or Keeper or Clark of the same Prison. As also to arrest & attach alwel al those which by our license as yet not obtained, do saue themselves collectors of the said almes, as also al those which by any our letters to the therof made, do gather the like rewards ouer & aboue one year contrary to the tenor of the same our letters patents. And those so arrested, to bring before our Marshall wheresoeuer he shall then be in England, or to the Prison of the Marshalsey of our house aforesaid lawfully to lead, there to remaine vntill they be punished according to the law in that behalfe.

Therefore we commaund you and euerye of you, that you gentlie receiue the aforesaide Hugh Oliuer or his sufficient deputy in this parte, to gather and receiue the almes and gifts aforesaid, not doing or suffering to be done to him or his deputy, any hurt damage, molestation or graue: and if any iniurye shall be done to him or his deputy, that you doe amende the same without delay.

Furthermore we commaund you the aforesaid Constables, Churchwardens & officers, & euery of you, that you be counsaillers & helpers for the executing & gathering of the premises. And also we commaund you the aforesaid Parsons, Vicars and Curats, that you publish in your Churches in your Parishes, the tenor of these presents.

In witnes whereof, we haue caused these our letters to be made patents for the space of one whole year to endure. Witness George Carey Knight, Baron of Hunsdon, and great Marshall of our house aforesaid. At our Mannor of East Greenwich the nine & twentieth day of September, in the eight and thirtieth year of our raigne.

God saue the Queene.